

The Flat Hat

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SA ELECTIONS 2007

Votes lost with the push of a button

SA Elections Commissioner says results should be available today

BY AUSTIN WRIGHT
FLAT HAT NEWS EDITOR

"Maybe we should focus on the part where I fucked up the election," Elections Commissioner senior James Evans said last night in an emergency meeting of the commission, when conversation drifted off-topic.

Yesterday's Student Assembly elections got off to a rocky start — as a failure to account for daylight savings time caused the polls to open 16 minutes late — and ended in disaster when Evans single-handedly lost the results through the push of a button. Raw computer data containing a log of the votes has been sent to former Student Information Network Director Will Cline, '05, who is working to create a program to read the information and produce results.

"SIN is cleaning up my mess by writing a program that will get every vote counted," Evans said in an e-mail last night to candidates.

"SIN needs to recover these votes in a process that is the electronic equivalent of a hand-count," he added.

Evans said that official results should be available today.

As modern technology failed, two elections were decided by paper ballots because a lack of official candidates for certain positions resulted in no place on the electronic ballot for write-in candidates at those positions.

Diane Brewster became the Class of '09 secretary, and Laura Rogers became the Class of '08 Treasurer.

In Evans' e-mail, he described the day's events.

At 8 a.m. students began complaining that they couldn't vote, leading to a manual opening of the polls at 8:16 a.m.

Between then and 9 a.m., Evans realized that SIN's time stamp was an hour behind schedule, not set for daylight savings time. He determined that he would need to manually close the polls at 8 p.m., as they otherwise wouldn't close until 9 p.m.

He logged into the system to change the election end-time, and

See ELECTION page 4



JONATHAN SEIDEN • THE FLAT HAT

SA Elections Commission members [clockwise from left] senior Jess Vance, senior James Evans, Chair Alex Kyrios, a sophomore, and senior Sean Gillick discuss the loss of yesterday's SA election results at an emergency meeting in the fourth floor kitchen of Jamestown south. The Board anticipates the recovery of the results by tomorrow morning.

For candidates, web is the way

Bloggers, Pilchen, Potter use YouTube, Facebook and personal websites to sway voters

BY BRAD CLARK
FLAT HAT STAFF WRITER

I expected him to have a ghostly palor. I expected him to smoke cigarettes in a darkened corner and to stare at me with beady eyes from beneath the wide brim of his fedora. I guess I expected the College's first Student Assembly political blogger to be a 20-year-old Matt Drudge. What I didn't expect was a smiling figure with a cheerful disposition who laughed and, between sips of his Daily Grind chocolate milk, spoke passionately about the current SA campaign.

Sophomore David Husband has made it his mission in this election cycle to try to educate the student body about the candidates. In a series of Facebook notes, worth 27 single spaced pages when read from beginning to end, he has chronicled the issues and twists that have come to characterize the current SA campaign. Mixing summary with endorsements and his sometimes contentious analysis and opinion, the resulting articles make an obvious effort to present a fair depiction of all parties involved regardless of any personal

political beliefs. His best, perhaps skewed, estimate is that his articles have reached between 1,000 and 1,500 people

"I wouldn't be writing these notes if I didn't enjoy it," Husband said. "But I also did it to reduce the information cost necessary for the student body to analyze these candidates. It takes a lot of time and effort to have a firm grasp of what's going on in the SA, and I wanted to help lower that threshold for people."

Husband's notes, while impressive on their own, are indicative of a larger movement toward technology-based SA campaigns. The first large-scale sign that the nature of campaigning is changing probably became evident with the burst of Facebook campaign groups that have appeared each spring for the last few years. Seeing the success that many have had with this new medium, candidates have been driven to utilize an ever-increasing number of channels to reach constituents, leading to an arms race-like style of campaigning.

"I do think that the technology has changed since I got here four years ago," current SA President Ryan Scofield, a senior, said. "When I first got involved there

was no Facebook, no YouTube, so all of that has really brought something new to the campaign — it allows the candidates to showcase their creativity in a new and

See STUDENT ASSEMBLY page 4



A screenshot of the Potter/Phillips video.

JAMESTOWN 2007

President, queen invited to Jamestown 2007

BY JAMES DAMON
FLAT HAT STAFF WRITER

What's old is new, again. Or at least that's the case for the historic Jamestown settlement. This May marks its 400th anniversary. In anticipation of this fact, the Jamestown Foundation has prepared many events to celebrate.

Organizers have planned what they are calling "America's anniversary weekend." The event, to be held from May 11 to May 13, promises a number of significant guests. The president and first lady have been invited along with Queen Elizabeth II of England. Actor James Earl Jones and former Supreme Court Judge and College Chancellor Sandra Day O'Connor will also participate in the weekend's festivities.

The weekend will feature "a festival atmosphere" with special exhibits on Jamestown's past and role in America's future. Events range from an exhibit on colonial crafting techniques to a performance by legendary funk and R&B artist Chaka Khan.

To maintain a manageable level of tourism for the anniversary weekend, the Jamestown Foundation has chosen to limit ticket sales to 30,000 visitors per day.

"Anniversary weekend planners have limited ticket sales to 90,000 ... to ensure that all guests have a pleasant experience," Kevin Crossert of the Jamestown Foundation said.



Queen Elizabeth II

According to Crossert, events have been going on since last May. Numbers from local hotels reflect an increased interest in the colonial triangle during this quad centennial year. Visitation reports from Jamestown and other areas of the Virginia historic triangle confirmed increases of 12 percent in yearly visitations. Hotel bookings for the weekend are up 200 percent over the same weekend last year.

In 1607 Jamestown was settled by British colonists, and is considered the first English settlement in North America. Until 1696, Jamestown was the capital of the

See FAMOUS page 3

Gates to address grads

Defense Secretary, '65, will speak at commencement

BY BRIAN MAHONEY
FLAT HAT NEWS EDITOR

The College announced this morning that U.S. Defense Secretary Robert Gates, '65, will deliver the keynote address at the College's May 20 commencement. Gates earned a B.A. in History from the College before receiving an M.A. in history from Indiana University and a PhD. in Russian and Soviet history from Georgetown University. He joined the Central Intelligence Agency in 1966, where he worked for 27 years as an intelligence official, working under six presidents.



Robert Gates, '65

In 1991, President George H.W. Bush appointed Gates the director of the CIA, where he served for two years.

Gates left the government for academia in 1993, eventually becoming president of Texas A&M University, where he remained until receiving his cabinet post last December. That post — unanimously approved by the Senate Armed Services Committee — came after the resignation of then-secretary Donald Rumsfeld.

According to Professor of Government Alan Ward, Gates' appointment represented an ideological departure from George W. Bush's original administration, particularly from Rumsfeld. He said that Gates's politics and character were more analytical and reserved than the "neocons" that surrounded Bush since 2000.

Since his appointment, Gates has been instrumental in reforming and shaping American foreign policy, particularly in Iraq and Iran.

In a statement released this morning, College President Gene Nichol commended Gates' achievements.

"Bob Gates' service to his country — and his alma mater — reflects the compelling tradition of public engagement that distinguishes William and Mary, long the wellspring of American leadership," Nichol said. "Already he's reminded us, in his short weeks at the Pentagon, why so many think so much of his service."

Gates was an active member in Alpha Phi Omega and the Young Republicans while at the College. He also worked as an Orientation aid and was the Business Manager of the William and Mary Review, the College's literary magazine.

His participation in commencement exercises will be his first visit to the College since receiving his cabinet post.

The College also announced that civil rights advocate William T. Coleman Jr. and alumnus William M. Kelso, M.A. '64, will receive honorary degrees at the graduation ceremony. Coleman is also the former secretary of the U.S. Department of Transportation. Kelso is the director of Archaeology for the Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities and the Jamestown Rediscovery Project.

NEWSINSIGHT

The Flat Hat

‘Stabilitas et Fides’

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Corrections

In the March 27 issue, Street Beat incorrectly identified Brian Chiglinski as a freshman. He is a junior.

The Flat Hat wishes to correct any facts printed incorrectly. Corrections may be submitted by e-mail to the section editor in which the incorrect information was printed. Requests for corrections will be accepted at any time.

Weather

Friday



High 68°
Low 44°

Saturday



High 68°
Low 51°

Sunday



High 75°
Low 60°

Source: www.weather.com

Quotes of the Week

“Maybe we should focus on the part where I fucked up the election.”

- senior, James Evans on the SA election

See SA page 1

“Oh my gosh, I have your butter. I got these huge-ass tubs of butter.”

-A Kappa Kappa Gamma member, about Kappasta.

See KAPPASTA page 6

News in Brief

Renovations Boost Rec Center Attendance

Since opening this past fall, attendance at the new Recreational Center has increased.

Faculty and student use of the Recreational Center has increased, but compared to last year, attendance during the day is more spread out. Director Linda King said it is now easier to find available machines and open courts.

The new facility added about 30,000 square feet, including a two-story climbing wall, a multi-use court, two group fitness rooms and a juice bar.

The facility is also environmentally-friendly and has achieved Leed Certification, an award for using natural construction materials. Knight said the College Rec Center is one of very few centers to achieve this standing.


“Materials from the project were recycled, and we reduced water flow,” Knight said. Environmentally-friendly rubber and floor paint were also used, as well as low-emitting materials that are “not putting chemicals into the environment. It’s not a lot, but it’s helping the environment,” Knight said.

— by Alina Todor

By the Numbers

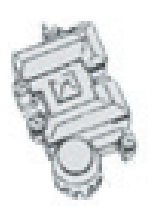
Dining Hall Theft

The following numbers were provided by Phil DiBenedetto, resident district manager of dining services. They include lost and broken items as well as stolen and ones. During room checkout at the end of the semester, Dining Services will put boxes in dorm halls so that students can easily return items.




The Caf

Approximately \$15,328 worth of plates, bowls, glasses, forks, knives and spoons have to be replaced every year.




The UC

\$16,123 worth of serviceware items are replaced every year.




Per student

Each year, Dining services spends \$7.67 per student on a meal plan to replace all serviceware.



Glasses

The dining halls lose between 120 and 150 glasses each week.



Silverware

The dining halls spend just under \$1,000 a week to replace silverware.

— by Maxim Lott



Columbia University was the site of a student protest against the Minuteman Group.

BEYOND THE BURG

Students censured for Minuteman protest

By MORGAN FIGA
FLAT HAT ASSOC. NEWS EDITOR

The New York Times reported that eight Columbia University students who rushed a stage during a presentation done by the Minuteman Project were warned or censured by university officials. The warnings and censures will not be noted on students’ transcripts after graduation, but if they are charged with other disciplinary action they will face harsher punishments.

The Minuteman Project is a group of individuals who support stronger laws against illegal immigration and have started a civilian border patrol along the U.S. border with Mexico.

Inside Higher Education reported that students who received “disciplinary warnings” will receive no other punishment and that the warning will stay on student transcripts until Dec. 31, 2008.

“All of these punishments have a gravity to them and they should not be taken lightly,”

Robert Hornsby, a Columbia spokesman, told the times.

The incident was put in the national spotlight after video of students storming the stage and tearing posters was posted on YouTube. New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg criticized Columbia after the incident occurred.

The Columbia University College Republicans, who sponsored the event, told the Times that they felt the punishment for the students was not harsh enough.

“I’m glad they took some action,” Chris Kulawik, president of Columbia’s College Republicans told the Times, “But personally, I don’t think it is strong enough to prevent people from doing it again.”

Tim Bueler, the national spokesman for the Minuteman Project, said that the disciplinary actions taken were a “white-wash.”

“If they keep going down this route, in the eyes of the public, they will lose their credibility,”

he told Inside Higher Education.

Free speech organizations are upset with the censures. “It was an attempt to silence a controversial speaker,” Greg Lukianoff, the Foundation for Individual Rights in Educations president told the Times. “I don’t think there’s any doubt about that, and attempts to make it look any other way are pretty foolish.”

In a statement released to the public, Columbia’s President, Lee Bollinger, said, “Columbia University has a longstanding and very specific process for disciplinary actions involving students ... If the rule of law is to mean anything, it is vital that we respect the results of the system of rules we live under.”

The disciplinary actions were first reported by the student newspaper The Columbia Spectator.

“I view the fact that I got the lightest possible punishment as a small victory,” David Judd, a junior who participated in the protest and subsequently received a warning, told the Times.

STREET BEAT

What do you think about this year’s SA election campaigns?



They’ve been a lot more enthusiastic than I ever remember.

Mary Kate Weaver, junior



I think multimedia, like silly YouTube videos, have become too mainstream this year.

Nick Prosser, junior



I feel like we should be focusing on more important issues ... like saving the whales.

Eric Evans, sophomore



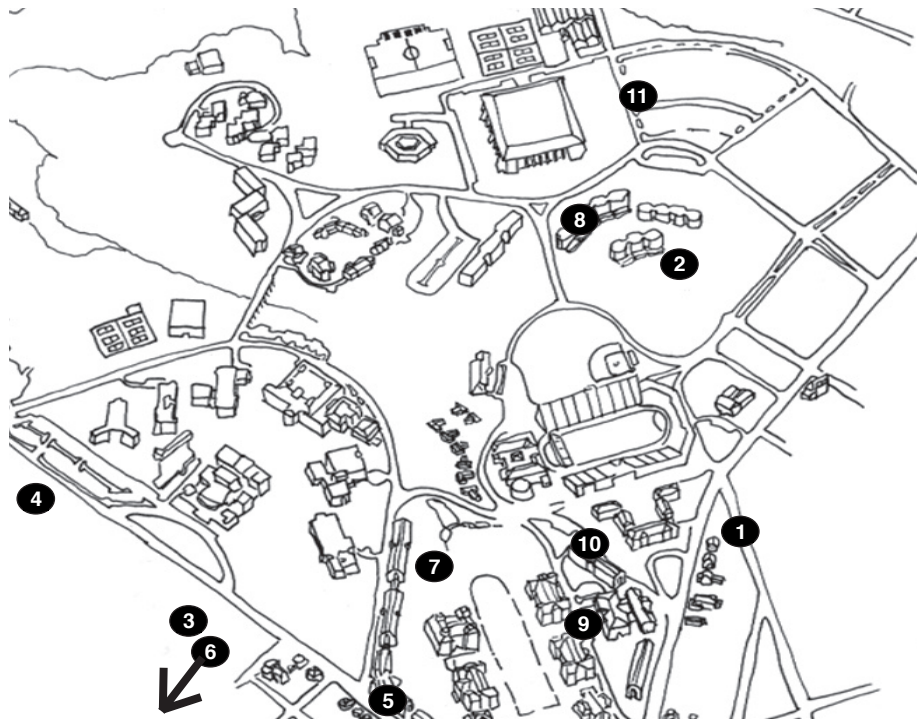
They were chaotic, but good. I enjoyed meeting new people.

Divya Gongireddy, freshman

— photos and interviews by Virginia Newton

COLLEGE POLICE BEAT

Mar. 14 to Mar. 26



Wednesday, Mar. 14 — Faculty members filed two consecutive reports of receiving threatening and suspicious e-mails. **1**

Sunday, Mar. 18 — Two students were arrested for drinking in public and underage alcohol possession in Dawson Circle. **2**

Tuesday, Mar. 20 — A student reported larceny of a barbecue grill from the

porch of Unit K. **3**

Wednesday, Mar. 21 — A laptop computer estimated to be worth \$2,100 was stolen near Jamestown Road. **4**

Thursday, Mar. 22 — A student was charged with a DUI and petit larceny after being found in possession of parking signs and cones near Jamestown Road and Burns

Lane.

Friday, Mar. 23 — A College student reported that a bike worth \$350 was stolen outside of Taliaferro Hall. **5**

Saturday, Mar. 24 — A student complained about noise in the Grad Complex Building. Police visited the building and asked students to refrain from making noise. **6**

— Two students were arrested behind Landrum for drinking in public and underage alcohol possession. **7**

— Police were called to Unit C to investigate defecation on the first floor common area. **8**

Sunday, Mar. 25 — A student was arrested on Blair Drive for drinking in public and underage alcohol possession. **9**

— A resident assistant in Old Dominion Hall reported a broken window in room 111. A student corroborated the story by reporting that she had heard someone banging on the window before it broke. **10**

Monday, Mar. 26 — A male student reported an estimated \$400 worth of damage to his vehicle parked outside of William and Mary Hall. **11**

— A student in Unit C filed noise complaint against students in Unit D who told the police they would turn down the music. **8**

— compiled by Alexandra Cochrane

More college-friendly retailers?

City, College work together to provide more off-campus food, fun for students

By ALEXANDRA COCHRANE
THE FLAT HAT

In light of studies showing a need for additional entertainment and retail options around campus, the College is pursuing increased economic development in Williamsburg.

In January of 2006, The Wessex Group conducted a study to analyze the College’s economic impact. It found that in 2005, the College contributed \$539 million to the state and attracted approximately 120,000 visitors. Students are estimated to spend over \$11 million in the Williamsburg area each year.

“The report reminds us that William and Mary’s contributions to the Commonwealth go beyond providing an educational experience unlike any other,” College President Gene Nichol said in a Feb. 28, 2006 article in William and Mary News.

In 2006, the College formed the Real Estate Foundation, which is working with the city and developers to attract development accessible to students.

“The Real Estate Foundation was formed to acquire and manage real estate in support of the educational goals of the College of William and Mary. The Foundation hired Nancy Buchanan as executive director in January of 2007. She formerly acquired property for Virginia Commonwealth University and some of its foundations,” James Golden, Associate Vice-president of Economic Development and Corporate affairs, said.

The Foundation is currently applying for status as a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation.

The College is focusing on developing the area around Wawa and the intersection of Monticello and Mount Vernon Avenues.

“The Foundation will work with businesses and with the city. It’s particularly important that the city and the College be aligned on this kind of initiative. The city staff has been very supportive of this initiative, and we plan to work very closely with them,” Golden said.

A Daily Press article entitled “To up its cool factor, W&M seeking hot spots” reported, “The 2006 survey of perceptions of the school among prospective and current students was conducted by consulting group Widmeyer Communications. In it, students said they saw the school as an excellent academic institution, but that, according to the survey, there was a ‘lack of social life on a campus that lacks a real college town.’”

“Students listed movie theaters, sports bars or other bars with alcoholic beverages, retail clothing stores and inexpensive or fast-food restaurants as their top four preferences for stores within walking distance,” the article stated.

This survey, in addition to the Wessex survey, demonstrates the need for increased development.

“All of our surveys suggest that the academic experience at William and Mary is outstanding, but students would like to have more to do off campus,” Golden said.

This issue has prompted the recent formation of the Student Chamber of Commerce, a student group designed to better the economic and entertainment experience of College students.

Its main goals are to annually poll students about their economic expenditures and needs, publish reviews of businesses, support student-run enterprises and advocate economic development of the city.

Students plant to beautify ‘swamp,’ reduce bad smell

By CAROLYN DiPROSPERO
THE FLAT HAT

In an effort to increase biodiversity, beautify the area and reduce the smell of decomposing soil, junior Andon Zebal, along with members of the Student Environmental Action Coalition and Botany Club, worked for the past three years to plant arrow arum, a common marsh plant, in the sediment retention pond behind the Student Health Center.

According to Zebal, by planting these small marshes, the organic compounds of the soil that collects in the pond will be used up instead of being left to be broken down by bacteria which cause the stink around “the Swamp.”

While many students consider the pond an eyesore, without it, contaminants from the soil around campus would be dumped into Lake Matoaka or the Chesapeake Bay.

“In the past, before retention

ponds were required by the [United States Environmental Protection Agency], Lake Matoaka was serving as an unintentional retention pond while the City of Williamsburg and the College campus developed,” Professor Linda Morse, a member of the geology department, said in an e-mail to The Flat Hat. Mandated by Virginia state law, the pond must be drained once every five years. The next dredging is due in three years.

“When I was a prospective [student], I walked by the swamp and thought ‘Hey, I can fix this,’” Zebal said in an e-mail to The Flat Hat. As a freshman, he suggested planting in the retention pond at an environmental meeting. Dr. Randy Chambers, a wetlands ecologist at the Keck Lab, was receptive to this idea and suggested arrow arum. With the help of SEAC and later the Botany Club, the pond has been seeded once a year for the past two

years.

This year, with the help of Student Assembly senators Zach Pilchen and Walter McClean, both sophomores, Zebal petitioned the SA to pass the Wetlands Reclamation Act, which allocates \$892.50 from reserve funds to purchase Virginia wildflowers to be planted in the swamp. “We want to take the swamp and turn it into something not smelly or hideous-looking,” McClean told The Flat Hat in February, after the bill was passed. “It’s good for the campus and good for the wildlife area.” The seeds bought with the SA’s funds were planted during the weekend of March 24.

As a junior, Zebal now faces the task of finding someone to continue his duties after he graduates at the end of next school year.

Famous attendees expected at nniversary

FAMOUS from page 1

Virginia colony.

“Jamestown established the culture that would flourish and leave to our nation the legacies of free enterprise, representative govern-

ment and cultural diversity,” Crossert said in an e-mail to The Flat Hat.

In 1907, 1.5 million Americans traveled to Jamestown to celebrate its 300th birthday. President Theodore Roosevelt, Booker T. Washington and Mark Twain were among those pres-

ent.

Other events planned around the anniversary include a reenactment from April 24 to May 5 of the landing of the Jamestown settlers. In addition, Williamsburg will host a global summit on democracy this fall from Sept. 16 to 19.

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SA ELECTION COVERAGE

Election results lost by official

Associate News Editors Morgan Figa and Angela Cota contributed to this report.

For Student Assembly candidates, web is the way

“What hasn’t changed, and is maybe the most important part of the process, is the personal connection, the meet and greets and all of that,” Scofield said. “Making the effort to actually get out and talk to people, rather than just taking five minutes to type a message onto a website, really makes a huge difference, and that’s what really shows a candidate’s worth.”



Freshmen run write-in campaign of fun, cougars

On Election Day, the two candidates sat outside the UC Terrace with a sign advertising a free back flip from a gymnast

"We enjoyed making elections into something beautiful," Cabrera said. "It was a win-win situation for us. ... We wish it wish was a positive experience for all of the candidates in-



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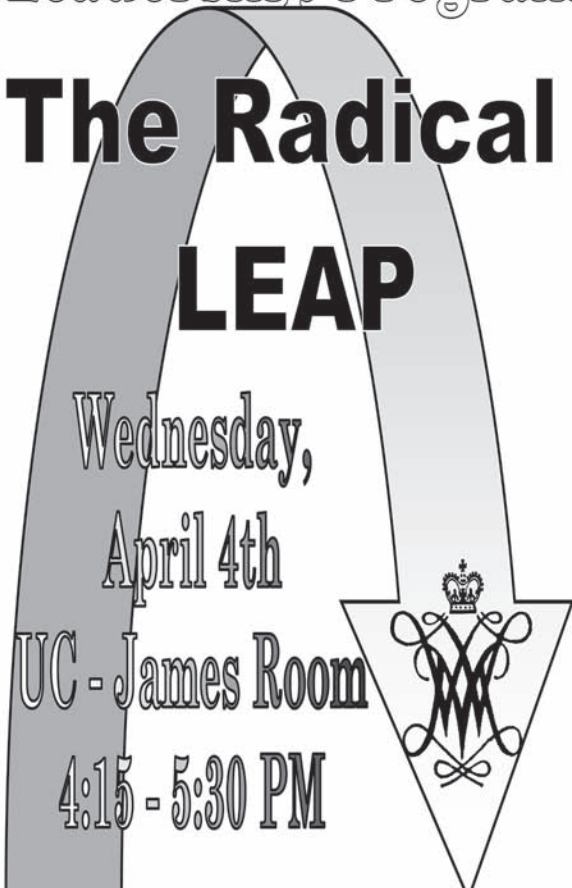
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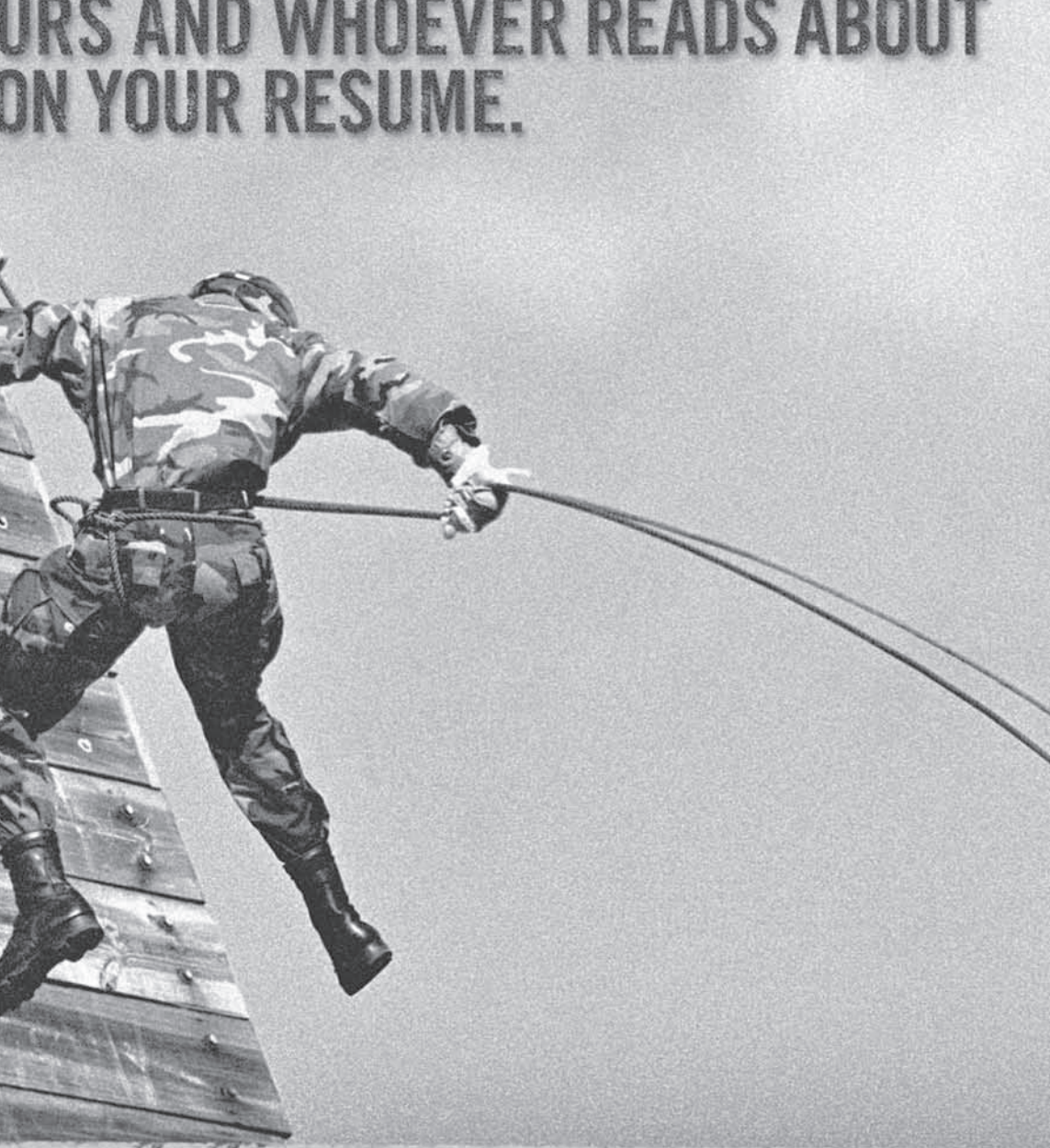
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Questions - Please Contact Eric Eickhoff - eeick@wm.edu



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OPINIONS

STAFF EDITORIALS

Right time for Gates

The Flat Hat is pleased to hear that this May’s commencement speaker will be Robert M. Gates, the current United States secretary of defense and graduate of the Class of 1965.

As a leader who has served six presidents, Gates represents the pragmatic and cooperative focus to which all graduates should aspire. His current task — resolving violent conflicts in Iraq and restoring friendly relations abroad — is both monumental and admirable. His words should serve as an engaging discussion for all in attendance.

While other universities have attracted star power to the podium — Lance Armstrong and U2’s Bono come to mind — The Flat Hat believes the College made the right choice in selecting a serious and internationally important speaker. While Gates

may not offer the laughs or the photo opportunities that major celebrities provide, he brings something far more valuable to the graduation day ceremony: intelligent reflections on the current state of our country.

Gates is a serious man in a serious time, and graduates should realize the gravity of the world they are entering. Who better to offer such insight than the man who is engaged daily with the American presidency and countless foreign officials?

Gate’s venerable career in public service began at this College, and whoever receives the Alger-non Sydney Sullivan Award for service will have large shoes to fill.

Its 1965 recipient will be in attendance, watch-ing attentively from behind the podium.



By Chad Thompson, Flat Hat Cartoonist

Elections need oversight

Last night, as the College awaited the results of the Student Assembly election, The Flat Hat learned that, due to an internet mishap by elections commis-sion member senior James Evans, all results had been lost. The elections committee and the Student As-sembly should take steps to ensure that, in the future, the results of the election are not dependent on one person.

We applaud Evans for taking full responsibility for his mistakes, but these were mistakes that were avoidable. The election commission runs only two elections per year, and there is no excuse for not be-ing prepared. The commission has a responsibility to students to provide fair, open elections. Instead, our elections take place in a system where there is little to no oversight and one person can jeopardize the ac-curate results.

The members of the elections commission will certainly be involved in damage control and a reas-sessment of the SIN voting system over the next few days, and we would like to provide a few suggestions. If the results that the elections commission sees to-morrow are in any way suspicious, a revote should be held. The students have placed a remarkable amount of trust in such a small body of political appointees, and some will see that trust as violated. The commis-sion may also want to examine SIN voting in general. It is possible that low-tech voting methods that leave a paper trail, like a paper ballot, will produce a more reliable result. We do not feel it appropriate to punish someone for a simple error, but students’ trust in their government and their votes are at stake, and students would be right to demand a voting system that they can rely on.

The Flat Hat welcomes submissions to the Opinions section. Letters to the Editor and Opinions columns are due at 5 p.m. Sunday for publication the following Tuesday and at 5 p.m. Wednesday for the following Friday. All submissions must be typed and double-spaced, and must include the author’s name, telephone number and any relevant titles or affiliations with campus or national groups. Letters may be no more than 300 words; col-umns may not be less than 500 words nor more than 700. Letters must be e-mailed to opinions@flathatnews.com. The Flat Hat reserves the right to edit all material. Because of space limitations, The Flat Hat may not publish all submissions. The Flat Hat Editorial Board meets before each issue to discuss the position taken by editorials. Unsigned editorials are written by a designated member of the Editorial Board. All Board editorials reflect the consensus of the Editorial Board. Letters, columns, graphics and cartoons reflect the view of the author only.

WWI vet dies unnoticed

It seems that as time goes on, the United States’ public interest becomes more and more trivial. Feb. 8, most people remember hearing or seeing the news that Anna Nicole Smith died. The former playmate died of unknown causes, and this engrossing, enthralling news story captured the atten-tion of the American public for days on end. However, many people don’t know that on that same day, Antonio Pierro, an Italian-born American World War I combat veteran died at the age of 110. He also happened to be the oldest verified man living in the United States and the oldest verified World War I combat veteran.



Adam Farrar

The puzzling irony of the situation is that Smith, who lived a life of vanity completely removed from almost every liv-ing person in the United States, occupied the air waves while a heroic WWI combat veteran died without so much as a simple ticker line at the bot-tom of CNN. The only references to his passing were in Massachusetts-based publications such as The Boston Globe and the local obituaries of Swampscott, Mass.

Considering there are only 40 surviving veterans of World War I, with even fewer who were actu-ally involved in combat, I find it incredible that more people are concerned with the death of Anna Nicole Smith. Is this what our society truly cares about? Is the death of an adult entertainer more

Anna Nicole Smith ... occupied the air waves while a heroic WWI combat vet-eran died without so much as a simple ticker line at the bottom of CNN.

newsworthy than the death of a combat veteran of a war that cost the lives of 116,708 American soldiers and 21,228,813 people worldwide? The media is a reflection of what our society values in day-to-day events; in my opinion, this event reflected poorly on our society.

To offer a proper memorial for Pierro, the fol-lowing is some information about this man’s heroic life. Born on Feb. 22, 1896 in Forenza, Italy, he immigrated to the United States in 1914 where he resided in both Marblehead and Swampscott, Mass. He enlisted in the Army in 1918, trained at Fort Dix and was sent to France where he saw combat in the Battle of Saint-Mihiel. Pierro also fought in the Meuse-Argonne Offensive in the 82nd American Expeditionary Force in the 320th Field Artillery, and he served as a member of the American Legion in Swampscott, Mass.

Pierro returned to the United States in 1919 and later married Marie Pierre in 1920. The couple did not have any children and Pierre died in 1967.

After his military service, Pierro worked in the General Electric jet engine plant in Lynn, Mass. Following the deaths of Thomas Nelson, Sr. and Emiliano Mercado del Toro, Jan. 9 and Jan. 24 respec-tively, Pierro became the oldest World War I combat veteran and the second oldest man in the world. Pierro lived out the rest of his life in Swampscott, Mass. with his younger, 98-year-old brother, where he died just a few weeks shy of his 111th birthday.

Adam Farrar is a freshman at the College.

Letter to the Editor

Review of “300” causes controversy To the Editor:

It is my duty to address the grossly inaccurate and inflammatory statements made by Beth Sutherland’s review of “300” in the March 27 issue, as not only an Iranian American, but, more importantly, as an informed citizen.

My main objection is not the fact that the review of this film treats the plot as fact, stating that it contains “an impressive amount of historical integrity” and is “how it actually happened.” Nor is it the author’s inappropriate references to “liberal Hollywood,” “vil-lains [resembling] the monstrosity of their actions” or Mahmoud Ahmadienejad. I am simply disgusted that a hateful diatribe masked as a movie review was pub-lished in a student newspaper without a thought to its effect on a section of the student body. I will engage the author in a “quick history lesson” of my own.

Spartans were by all accounts ruthless (non-democratic) savages who murdered slaves for sport,

endorsed thievery and rape, practiced infanticide and lived for war. They were Greek Jihadists who lived only to die fighting. Further, slavery was a corner-stone of Greek society (Aristotle’s manifesto even sanctions it). There is no evidence that the empire, which freed the Jews from Babylonian captivity, ever made use of unpaid labor. This same empire even created the first bill of rights. In fact, Herodotus is an exemplar of Persia’s freedom. He traveled freely throughout the empire, openly criticizing it. He lived in the Persian city of Halicarnassus because Persia afforded him the freedom to publish his scathing report of it.

Hostile words are exchanged regularly between Tehran and Washington. The United States is engaged in two wars with Iran’s neighbors. In a time when we are in need of cultural understanding, this film and this article drive the wedge between the people of the Middle East and of the West even deeper.

— Kayvan Farchadi, '09

By the time this column arrives in your hands, perhaps the mishap postponing yesterday’s election results will be corrected, and barring a catastrophic student uprising — which, viewed in a certain light, strikes me as oddly exciting — the wheels of democracy will have continued to turn. But to what end?

In a body whose name most often appears alongside the descriptors “out of touch” and “homogeneous,” it came as no surprise that both presidential campaigns championed the return of responsiveness and diversity to the Student Assembly. Now, the question emerges: will the winners make good on their promises?

The responsibility for affecting these changes, how-ever, was (and will be) left largely on the shoulders of the student body. To this end, referenda (which you may have noticed are becoming more popular) are terrific for shifting accountability to the voters and away from their elected leaders. After all, if referendum policy goes awry, those in office aren’t the ones taking the heat because, hey, we were the ones who decided on it.



Andrew Peters

Referenda often determine nothing at all, as in this year’s question asking us if two women were adequate representation in the senate for a student population which is 55 percent female. I’m sure it will prove stiff competition for last year’s “Should the SA do more to increase opportunities for student nightlife?” in the battle to uncover the blatantly obvious. Perhaps next time around, we will be asked if we’d like to cancel Christmas.

But despite its irrelevant results, in terms of student responsibility, the referendum was success-ful in highlighting our opportunity to elect up to nine women to the senate. Certainly, the winning presidential ticket now has the chance to make its cabinet the quintessential example of diversity, but if we failed to elect these women, then we are at least partly to blame when we start complaining

Our legitimacy in the Williamsburg political arena rests not on our new president or vice president, senators or executive branch, but on the student body itself and its willingness to vote.

once again about our homogeneous student gov-ernment.

More important even than diversity, however, were the promises to become more responsive to student needs. And, with more than 400 students bumped from the housing lottery this year, it appears advancing student concerns in the city will be paramount among these demands. If the winning camp wishes to have any hope of making good on their pledges to deal with the city, they’re going to need student backing — and a lot of it.

We’re all aware that students comprise about half the city’s population, but it’s disappointing to admit we’re only a tiny fraction of the registered voters. The problem, then, is that even if city officials are fond of us and want to work with the SA, there’s no reason to do so until we can vote; it would be political suicide. Just ask Billy Scruggs, the only true student advocate on city council. He wasn’t re-elected in 2006.

At present, the powerful actors in Williamsburg city politics are the concerned vot-ers the ones who show up to council meetings in vehement protest of policy. These are the people who will not stand idly by as the new administration tackles the three-person rule. And why shouldn’t the city listen to these folks over our student government? Put simply, our legitimacy in the Williamsburg politi-cal arena rests not on our new president or vice presi-dent, senators or executive branch, but on the student body itself and its willingness to vote.

But to reach the point where voting is possible, we must look to the SA. If the new administration truly has responsiveness to student issues in mind, so that everyone may voice his opinion in the city with the backing of his vote, campus-wide voter registration must be the administration’s foremost responsibility. Even now, steps in that direction have been taken by both the senate and the executive, but to the presi-dent and vice president, whoever you may be, we’re expecting big things, and with our help, this is one promise you cannot afford to break.

Andrew Peters, a sophomore at the College, is a staff columnist. His columns appear on Fridays.

Another year in Iraq

Last Monday, Mar. 19, marked the fourth anniver-sary of the beginning of the war in Iraq. Obviously, opinions have changed toward the war since its beginning. When we first invaded, support ran high for the president, as most believed that we would be able to take over and with-draw in a matter of weeks. As the years have gone by, the president’s support has plummeted to a record low. We now know that Iraq never had weapons of mass destruction and the idea of a peaceful democratic government in Iraq seems nearly impossible.



Rachael Siemon-Carome

President George W. Bush’s speech on the war’s anniversary displayed a clear change in tone and expectations toward the war. In past years, Bush has made declarations of success and military vic-tory for the troops. No such declarations were made this year. There was no mention of democracy or great victory. There was simply a plea for patience. As Bush continues to ask for more funding and troops, it seems his only plan is to continue what we have been doing and hope it works this time. He has offered little apology for the failures of the past and has proposed no plan to withdraw in the future.

In response to Bush’s latest bill, which asks for \$100 million more for the war, Democrats attached an amendment that creates a timetable for the with-drawal of the troops. With mass public support, the Democrats are clearly no longer afraid to criticize the war or the president. However, Bush has made

As Bush continues to ask for more funding and troops, it seems his only plan is to continue what we have been doing and hope it works this time.

it perfectly clear that he will veto such a bill if it is passed, calling the bill “unconscionable.”

The Bush administration has also made it clear that we can no longer win this war. Instead, it argues that if we leave now, all of the past efforts and sacrifices of our troops will be wasted. That argument has absolutely no merit. The idea that we have to lose more lives in order to honor the lives we have already lost is completely ridiculous. In fact, it is wrong and offensive. What gives Bush or anyone else the right to use the memory of sol-diers who gave up their lives to manipulate those who are still alive to fight for a cause that doesn’t exist?

In his speech, Bush warned Americans that if troops were to withdraw now, Iraq could become the central planning ground for future terror-ist attacks. But is the fear of what might happen enough reason to stay? Bush demands that we have faith that things will get better, but when everything shows that it won’t, why should we?

Throughout his admin-istration, Bush has never earned the right to our respect or trust. He has only provided lies and false promises. I understand that in leaving now we may be leaving Iraq far more dangerous and vulnerable than when we invaded four years ago. The question we now have to ask is: where do we draw the line? At what point is it no longer worth it to “honor” the sacrifices we have already made? If the only results this war produces are more dead American soldiers and innocent Iraqis, it seems that withdrawing is our only option.

Rachael Siemon-Carome, a freshman at the College, is a staff columnist. Her columns appear on Fridays.

Page 6

VARIETY

Campus carboloads on Kappasta

BY MAX FISHER
FLAT HAT CHIEF STAFF WRITER

Seven girls stand hunched around the cramped dining room table of the Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority house. They all wear the same orange T-shirt, “What’s Cooking, Good Lookin’” emblazoned on the front, and are focused with single-minded intent on the task before them: the production of garlic bread. Each girl has a job — one slices the ironing board-sized loaves, one butters, one arranges the bread baskets and so on. But the butterer has a problem: her gallon container of butter is nearly empty, and it’s the last one.

“Does anyone have any butter they can donate?” she shouts across the room, too focused on the remaining bread to look up. Another orange-shirted girl who happens to be walking by, a plate of spaghetti in each hand, says she is on it and dashes in among the dozen girls, also in orange shirts, busying themselves in the kitchen. She emerges a few minutes later, carrying several bulging Costco bags that weigh down her slight frame.

“Oh my gosh, I have your butter. I got these huge-ass tubs of butter,” she says cheerily as she hobbles across the room. This is Kappasta, Kappa Kappa Gamma’s spring philanthropy, which yesterday raised \$2,100 for cervical cancer research. The pace may have been strenuous inside the sorority house, but outside on Sorority Field, where students dined picnic-style on spaghetti and garlic bread yesterday from 5 to 8 p.m., the pace was casual and the mood social.

“It might not be the best meal I’ve ever had,” junior Nora Devitt, the sorority’s philanthropy chair, conceded with a laugh. “I think it’s more about the company and the at-mosphere.” The atmosphere was warm and friendly — diners milled between the picnic tables, chatting casually with each other and with the endless stream of orange-shirted girls marching to and from the sorority house for more food.

The company, however, was somewhat limited. Devitt estimated that around 250 tickets were sold last year, 90 of which were to KKG sisters, who are required to buy a ticket. The majority of attendees were male, many of whom came in single-fraternity groups. One table consisted solely of brothers from Kappa Delta Rho, another of brothers from Sigma



ALEX HAGLUND • THE FLAT HAT
Kappa Kappa Gamma sisters prepare garlic bread for Kappasta. The event raised \$2,100 for cervical cancer research.

Pi. Regardless of gender or Greek affiliation, all in attendance seemed to have at least one or two friends among the orange shirts.

“I feel like everybody here knows someone [in Kappa Kappa Gamma],” said junior Janna Combs, who took tickets at the front of Sorority Field.

“A lot of these events don’t always include people who aren’t Greek,” Devitt acknowledged. She expressed disappointment that Kappasta does not typically attract a more diverse crowd, but said the sorority was trying to change that. “I invite friends who aren’t in a sorority or fraternity. We invite sports teams and different groups like that. We try to get the runners to come out and carboload.”

Devitt compared Kappasta to Kappa Delta’s Campus Golf philanthropy, which attracted over 1,000 participants last year. Although Kappasta does not draw as large a crowd, it is still a fun event for the sorority and it’s attendees. “We’re very social people,” she said. “We like partaking in [Kappasta] with them, with our friends.”

Devitt, whose cheery optimism and friendly attitude went unfazed by everything from spilled

pasta to predictions of rain during the picnic, frowned only when asked about the image of her sorority on campus. “I hate the stereotypes,” she said. “There are stereotypes about everybody.” Devitt cited the size of KKG, one of the College’s largest sororities at 90-strong. “It’s a huge range. The stereotypes are going to fit some of us.”

The things that make the girls of KKG stand out were present at Kappasta. Where many sorority philanthropy events sport innuendo-laden T-shirts (such as Campus Golf’s “Tap That” shirt), Kappasta has been host to primmer tag-lines such as last year’s “S is for Saucy,” and this year’s “What’s Cooking, Good Lookin’?” Some girls wore pearls over their orange t-shirts, and several had pastel-colored polo collars peaking out from underneath theirs. Though the girls of KKG may have played the role of refined hostess while serving and socializing with their guests yesterday, behind the scenes they exhibited a steadfast dedication to the work of the evening, as well as to the cervical cancer research fund that was the reason for the event.

See KAPPASTA page 7

Vegetarian options limited for students

BY CHASE JOHNSON
FLAT HAT EXECUTIVE EDITOR

Imagine going to dinner each night, not entirely sure that you’ll be able to find enough food to create a full meal. That is the reality for most vegetarians who purchase meal plans through William and Mary Dining Services.

“The biggest problem we face in trying to satisfy vegetarians is definitely variety,” Dining Services Resident District Manager Phil DiBenedetto said. “We’re constantly trying to come up with new items. I think our chefs do a great job, but it’s a constant effort.”

DiBenedetto said that chefs at the Commons and the University Center’s Center Court try to have at least one vegetarian entree at every meal. However, vegetarian students, such as junior Kristin Smith, often feel that they are forced to settle for options from the salad bar too often.

“The UC tries,” Smith said. “But I usually end up eating from the salad bar, or getting one of the vegetable sides instead of an actual entree.”

DiBenedetto admitted that it is easier to satisfy the wide variety of tastes at the Caf than at the UC. “At the Caf, we have a full vegetarian station, which has a

different vegetarian entree at every meal that is often vegan as well,” he said. “At the UC, they don’t have the option of a vegetarian station due to its smaller size and layout. We try to have options available, but they’re often spread out.”

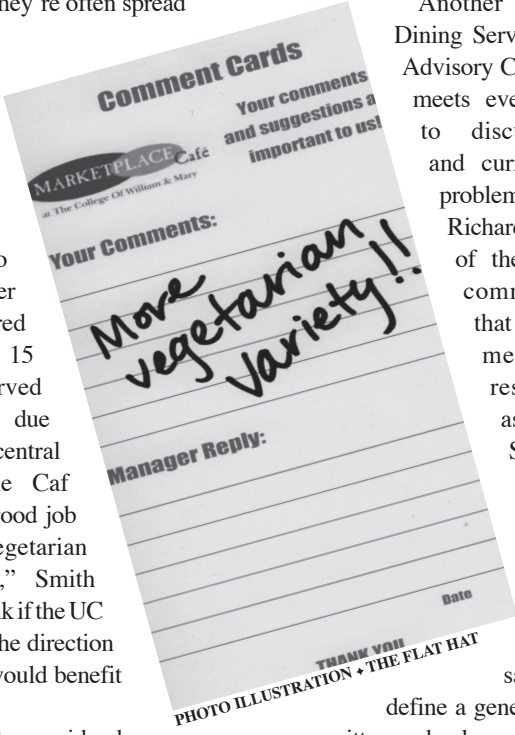
The problem is that the UC serves more students than the Caf — generally 16 to 17 thousand per week compared to the 14 to 15 thousand served by the Caf — due to its more central location. “The Caf does a really good job providing vegetarian main courses,” Smith said. “But I think if the UC went more in the direction of the Caf, it would benefit more people.”

DiBenedetto said he realizes that not all vegetarian students will be satisfied by Dining Services’ best efforts. “We can’t satisfy everyone, even

though we try,” he said. “We try to be both proactive and reactive in addressing problems. We rely a lot on comment cards, online surveys and day-to-day interactions with students.”

Another resource for Dining Services is the Food Advisory Committee, which meets every three weeks to discuss comments and current trends and problems. Junior Janelle Richardson, a member of the food advisory committee, said that the committee members are responsible for assisting Dining Services in addressing food-related issues. “We generally brainstorm a lot of ideas,” she said. “Comments define a general need, but the committee and subcommittees build off them to create solutions.”

Richardson reiterated the point that lack of variety is the biggest problem.



“The most general comment we get is requests for more vegetarian options,” she said.

DiBenedetto said that the best advice he can give is to speak up. “If students go to managers with issues, managers will respond. If you don’t see anything that fits your diet, let us know. If we can get it, we’ll get it for you — it’s that easy. There’s no secret.”

Smith, however, said that while asking for a special order is a nice idea, it isn’t practical. “It seems like a hassle. Someone has to go cook something special for you and you have to wait for it. That’s fine for a restaurant, but a cafeteria is about convenience; if it’s not convenient, people won’t use it.”

Richardson stressed that because the dining situation for vegetarians isn’t ideal, comments are heavily encouraged. “You have a voice,” she said. “If you have ideas and want to see changes, you have the power to try to get them implemented.”

DiBenedetto insists that Dining Services is always adjusting. Still, for vegetarians who continue purchasing meal plans, some degree of creativity at mealtime seems to be the name of the game.

Blue Talon

reopens

BY ASHLEY GRIGGS
THE FLAT HAT

Colonial Williamsburg regained one of its most beloved and renowned eateries, the Blue Talon Bistro. on March 12 “It’s nice to be back and feel like we were missed,” David Everett, owner and chef, said.

The restaurant, which is located at 420 Prince George Street, suffered damage from a fire on Dec. 6, 2006 that forced the Talon and two other local businesses to close. Conclusions about the blaze indicate that it was caused by a carelessly discarded cigarette. Though the incident itself was out of the control of the owners and employees of the Talon, this did not deter the restaurant from rebuilding.

“Being closed and receiving all the cards that people wrote was almost overwhelming,” Everett said. The Talon held an open house a week before its reopening and, much to the delight of its owners, hundreds of people attended. Everett fondly remembered thinking, “I guess they did miss us.” The bistro, which opened in September of 2004, has gained a large following in the Williamsburg area and draws patrons from all over the United States. One of the many attributes of the popular bistro is its friendly atmosphere, which greets you at its front doors.

As for the state of the establishment itself, the entirety of the damage has been repaired. The fire wreaked havoc on a portion of the roof and on the restaurant’s back wall. However, the building has finally been restored to its original splendor. “All the paint color[s] and walls are the same,” Everett said.

As the interior of the Talon is in its original condition, there is no need for the staff to readjust in getting back to work. Everett confirmed that no employees were put out of work during the bistro’s closed period. Some found work at various local cafes and restaurants that were willing to come to the aid of their neighboring business in any way they could. The Colonial Williamsburg Company also offered employment opportunities. Other members of the staff participated in the renovation process firsthand, helping to repair the damage that had been done.

“I worked at a cafe that was willing to hire me because they felt bad about what happened,” Sasha Dofflemeyer, a graduate student at the College, said. Indeed, the employees of the Talon, including many College students, benefited from the hospitality of the Williamsburg community.

In terms of the response by the people of the Williamsburg area, business at the bistro has remained steady since reopening. “Of course, the first days were extremely busy,” Dofflemeyer said. “Then it tapered off.” In fact, the bistro has not lost any business due to the fire, which Everett hopes is the first and last major crisis that his restaurant will ever incur.

“We hope that students will eat here,” Everett said after explaining that students of the College have regularly dined at the bistro. Though the young adults of the area eat at the restaurant mainly during the day, many do make time to have a nice evening meal. “Even though we know it’s hard for college students to break away from the Ramen Noodles and find the time or money to eat out, we hope that they do,” Everett said.



LAUREN NELSON • THE FLAT HAT
The Blue Talon presents a newly furnished interior. The Talon reopened March 12.

CONFUSION CORNER



Lauren Bell

Pesky post office workers keep playing games with my heart

I didn’t know the post office had a sense of humor. Common knowledge indicates that post office workers — particularly those unlucky enough to be stationed in the basement of the University Center— are particularly lacking in mirth, joy and general good humor.

And can you blame them? First of all, they are in the basement of a campus building, and as anyone with Yates experience knows, living in a basement can seriously mess with a person’s head. Now, presumably, the post office people don’t actually live in that basement, but can we really know for sure?

Second, the College’s mail people are not provided with the same accoutrements as other postal workers — the snappy blue uniforms, the really cool truck, the official mail-holding sack. How can they be expected to happily perform their duties without a sack? Personally, I can barely make it out of bed to write this column when I think of the giant, Flat Hat emblem-bearing sack-shaped hole in

my life.

Lately, though, I’ve become suspicious that College post office workers have a lot more fun than they let on. It started with my wait for grad school acceptance letters. I checked my mailbox every day, and finally, on Valentine’s Day, I received my very first letter ... a rejection. It could have been a twist of fate, but it’s much funnier to believe that some postal drudge, stuffed in a back room, saw all the Valentine’s cards addressed to everyone but him and held onto that little gem for about a week before popping it in my CSU at exactly the right time. As my heart sank with rejection, my respect for the fictional, evil post office workers rose to a new high.

My suspicions were bolstered by the fact that no other letters came for at least a month. And it wasn’t just grad school acceptances that those crafty delivery people were withholding, it was everything. No coupons, no flyers, not even a single pro-Jesus pamphlet crossed that

cold, silver threshold. For a month people! If that’s not the post office messing with my head, I don’t know what to tell you. I could almost hear them giggling behind their stacks of package receipts as the light from my side of the CSU wall blazed through the empty doorway of my mailbox and into their offices.

As much as I hate having a gaping void for a mailbox (I even kind of miss the Jesus pamphlets), I like the idea that the post office workers are having a good time back there. And if they really do get their jollies from hiding my mail, I think we can tie a long list of student mail grievances to some shady goings-on right on the other side of that mail counter.

For example, there have been times when I received my Vibe subscription at least a month late. The only explanation is that a bored mail worker, intrigued by the headline, “Ciara: Don’t you wish your girlfriend was hot like her?” picked up my Vibe for a little leisurely perusal. I can’t fault him for that — I, too, wish

my girlfriend was hot like Ciara. I just wish he had put it back after he was done reading because, lacking Vibe’s wise guidance, I ended up being totally uncool for the entire month of February.

I think the post office employees also entertain themselves with care packages. They roll down that little window at 4:30 sharp and place all kinds of unsavory bets on those lovingly duct-taped boxes from home, shaking them and making guesses on number of cookies, flavor and whether or not they are delicious. Oh yes, the post office plays fast and loose with our letters and our hearts. I’m onto them, but I’m willing to make a compromise. Post Office, I hope you’re reading: unlimited Vibe and cookie samples in exchange for a grad school acceptance. I think you know where to send your reply.

Lauren Bell is a Confusion Corner columnist for The Flat Hat. She’s busily searching E-bay for her very own snappy blue uniform.



BY ELIZABETH DERBY
THE FLAT HAT

Doubtlessly, Virginia Walters’ (relatively) new haircut has sparked many a passerby’s speculation about her interests: art, feminism, perhaps a rock ‘n’ roll revolt against patriarchy and democratic ideals. Short hair, however, is not always a form of anarchy, and this week’s That Girl defies labels. With a warm laugh, soft-spoken intelligence and the grace of even-handedness, Virginia possesses a quiet power, fed by commitment to strongly held beliefs that manages to undercuts all superficial stereotypes. Here, That Girl talks about bio-diesel, communes and the importance of creature comforts.

What is VOX? What do you do on campus?
I am the acting president of VOX, which is Latin for ‘voice.’ VOX is Voices for Planned Parenthood. We’re the College chapter of Planned Parenthood, so we do a lot of the education for them here and general education campaigns about HPV (human papilloma virus) and the HPV vaccine (Gardasil). We have an emergency contraception distribution event coming up on April 19. This semester we co-sponsored The Vagina Monologues and the Sex Workers’ Art Show.

Are you a member of Student Environmental Action Coalition?

No, but I do a lot of work with them. My plans for next year are with the president of SEAC, senior Gina Sobel, and we’re planning a project that would be about nine months traveling through the American South in a bio-diesel bus doing community organizing around climate change and sustainable living.

So how does one go about converting a bus to bio-diesel?

It’s apparently pretty easy. Our plan is to get a bus that runs on diesel, but you can actually just convert one of the tanks and use the hoses differently to run the diesel engine on waste vegetable oil. A lot of people who run their vehicles on waste vegetable oil — one of the most efficient ways to do it — have a contract with a local Chinese restaurant or something to pick up their oil once a week. They just keep it in a barrel for you. Otherwise they have to pay to get it taken away. So you can actually get paid for your fuel. You just have to strain all the bits out of it.

What are you going to do when you get to these communities?

We have a rough proposal written up. Basically the idea is that a lot of mainstream environmental organizations have not really focused on the South

That Girl

Virginia Walters

before, and specifically haven’t focused on the smaller towns in the South as far as large-scale campaigns go. So Gina and I really wanted to use social networking in the South to try to organize around it. We’re thinking specifically of churches — for example, if we’re working with a congregation we’ll work with the pastor. If we work with the Chamber of Commerce maybe we’ll work with the mayor, and if we were talking to a Parent Teacher Association, we’d talk to the president of the PTA. We want to engage with the idea of social networking and social pressure in the South to affect change. Our goal is to get larger groups of people in contact with local environmental groups, to foster a demand for it, for that kind of policy-making. We want to get the ball rolling, I guess. It’s really ambitious and really idealistic, and I know it’s going to be hard, but I’m excited about it. It think it has the potential to be really effective.

Along the lines of conservation, I was told you’re working on a commune this summer.

Well technically it’s not a commune, it calls itself an “intentional community.” I feel like there’s all this talk about anti-capitalism and green living and communal living and all that stuff. There’s all this chatter about the general idea of “going green” and eating locally and organically. Then there’s an intentional community just outside of Blacksburg that kind of is a lot of those things, and I kind of want to go just to see what that is like in reality.

So you would consider yourself an activist? Then again, you might not want to label yourself.

Oh please, no. It helps to be aware of what you are and especially how other people perceive you. I think yes, I am an activist. I don’t know how good at it I am, but I like it. I think that everyone who is an activist acts against injustices, whatever they think those are. I feel really close to reproductive justice issues. I think that it’s an injustice that anyone’s choices are seen as being invalid, especially when those choices are so personal as to be involving your sexuality and your body. At the same time, because I see that as an injustice I completely see where anti-choice activists are coming from. They see it differently; they see it in their eyes as these beings’ lives are not being respected. I think in this way we’re on the same page. We identify injustices and we act against them, and I respect that a lot. Reproductive justice is just an example because it’s something that feels close to me, and I think it’s something that needs a lot of work, especially where we are: on this campus, in this state.

Dirty talk: turning up the volume

It’s finally spring! Warm spring weather probably puts you in the mood to ... that’s right, play outside. Run around with a special friend or two, get some exercise, get your heart rate up, get a little sweaty, get dirty — there’s just something about getting a little dirty that makes you feel so alive. Luckily, you don’t have to be playing a game of muddy ultimate frisbee in the Sunken Garden to get dirty; you can do it in the privacy of your bedroom, too.

BEHIND CLOSED DOORS



Kate Prengaman

That’s right, you’re in the middle of a column about talking dirty. And don’t get uncomfortable just yet. The great thing about talking dirty is that, as ridiculous as it sounds on paper, in the heat of the right kind of moment, it can be a great turn-on. It’s not as intimidating as it seems, as long as you don’t force it. Great sex uses as many of your senses as possible — touch, taste, smell and now, using a little bit of special language, you can totally get turned on by your hearing, too. Hearing your partner and yourself say something kinky and out of the ordinary turns most people on, even if it feels a little weird at first. There are basically two different methods of using dirty talk in your sex life. Don’t worry — you don’t have to pick just one.

The first method is to talk about your fantasies — in rather explicit terms. They don’t need to be dirty in terms of profanity or raunchy euphemisms, but direct descriptions of your desires: “Ohhh ... next I’m going to rip your panties off with my teeth and then ...” Spend some time talking to your partner about your upcoming activities in the most vivid details you can handle. The anticipation, combined with the trill of hearing your partner enjoy describing something a little kinky will totally get you going. It’s best done in a breathy whisper, really close to their ear. It’ll get you both extra excited for the next act. You can describe fantasies, even if you don’t plan on acting them out. Just hearing your partner (or yourself) say things out loud that are kinky or slightly dirty is a turn-on for many people.

The second method is what I like to consider more “in the moment” dirty talk. Instead of your dialogue standing alone, as in method one, here you can just interject some kinky language into your sexual routine. It can be as simple as telling your partner how hard or wet they might feel. Tell them you’re in the mood to play a little rougher than usual perhaps. A simple, “Oh God, fuck me now” is enough to get most partners’ engines running in high gear. Start small if you’re uncomfortable — a word or phrase here and there — and see what feels right. If you find yourself or your partner enjoying the dirty conversation, kick it



up a little bit more.
If words aren’t your thing and forming a coherent statement in the heat of the moment is a challenge for you, you can stick to moaning. Moaning is very important. Everyone loves to hear that little gasp (or loud scream) of pleasure escape their lover’s lips. It gives you a confidence boost: You know that you’re doing something well, plus it’s exciting. Moans can be actual words — like “more” or “right there,” heavy breathing or that whole extra vocal voice you didn’t know you had and you can’t control. It helps to cue your partner into what you like, and what you really like. Unless you’re dating a mind reader, you’ll get better sex with more moaning.

If you are normally quiet during sex, try this little experiment. Make a little noise next time, be it “omigod” or “oohhhh” or whatever comes naturally to you. I bet that you’ll find yourself even more excited because of it, and your partner will love it. I’m not suggesting that you fake anything — faking encourages bad behavior by rewarding a less than stellar performance with misleading praise. (Although, I will admit, ladies, if he’s still trying and you’re getting bored and it’s just not going to happen, and really all you want is to go to bed, maybe a fake is acceptable. I mean, sometimes it has to be done. But, please, keep that to the exception, not the rule.) Keep in mind that there’s a difference between faking pleasure and trying to moan a little bit to vocalize the pleasure you’re enjoying. You’ll notice that once you start, it’s pretty addictive. Auditory stimulation is powerful stuff.

Talking about sex and talking during sex — from coy, teasing suggestion to blunt, kinky descriptions — can be a great way to get a little dirtier this spring. Just be careful to use the right conversations at the right times. Don’t launch into a long discussion pondering, “Why was that orgasm I just had so intense?” when you are still in a situation to have another one. Instead, just moan for more instead.

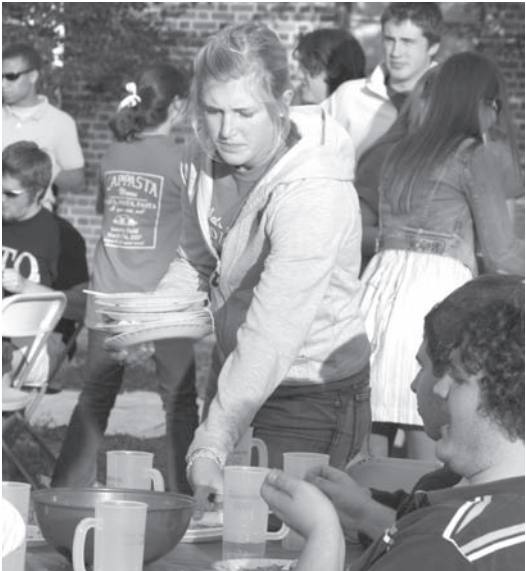
Kate Prengaman is the Flat Hat sex columnist. She rarely finds herself at a loss for words.

Campus carboloads on Kappasta

KAPPASTA from page 6

“We’re all very active and involved,” Devitt said of her sorority. Kappa Kappa Gamma chose to make cancer research their official philanthropy two years ago, though she said members of KKG had been active in volunteering for breast cancer research funds for years before that. She cited several other examples of the sorority’s dedication to service, such as the large number of members who spent their spring break on service trips and on the sorority tradition to send 10 or more girls to a 5K run for cancer research several hours away. “This year was really cute. A lot of the seniors did practice runs down DoG Street.”

Devitt said she is not concerned with any misperceptions of her sorority. “People might like to say we do [Kappasta] because we don’t like to get our hands dirty,” she said. “I think Kapasta is a lot of fun. All your friends come and have a good time, and it’s for a great cause we all care about.”





ALEX HAGLUND • THE FLAT HAT
A Kappa Kappa Gamma sister cleans up dishes during Kappasta.





Heroman By Thomas Baumgardner


Horoscopes


Pisces: Feb. 19 - March 20
 You need to refresh your soul, reevaluate your situation and live life to the fullest. More importantly, you need to get tested for Chlamydia.


Aries: March 21 - April 19
 Your compatibility meter will shoot through the roof this week, as you will now be able to respond to people with “Hello,” as opposed to “Whatever.”


Taurus: April 20 - May 20
 New ideas and challenges have always enforced your will to live, but that will change this week when you are challenged to rise from the dead.


Gemini: May 21- June 21
 Whatever it is that you do this week, you will do it with the stick-to-itiveness that makes Geminis unique; well, that and a pair of testicles.


Cancer: June 22 - July 22
 Along with a punch in the face, you will receive wisdom this week from Doctor Do-It-All, who advises you to drop your activities and hang glide off of Rogers Hall.


Leo: July 23 - Aug. 22
 You will be relieved after finishing your 366th sonnet and the work of your life, only to be accused of “coppin’ Petrarch’s steez” by your English major friends.


Virgo: Aug. 23 - Sept. 22
 You will have a life-shattering paradigm crisis this week when you are excited to find a nickel, but realize the machine only accepts quarters.

Libra: Sept. 23 - Oct. 22
 While your decisions are tough this week, you ask yourself whether the stars would have done the same thing. A ball of gas can’t have a baby, idiot.

Scorpio: Oct. 23 - Nov. 21
 The road of life is long and full of large boulders, and until Hummers start conserving gas, you should seriously consider buying a grappling hook.

Sagittarius: Nov. 22 - Dec. 21
 Focusing on a point will helps you relax your brain, but when that point turns out to be a football player’s girlfriend, you will need more than a prayer to live.

Capricorn: Dec. 22 - Jan. 19
 When life gives you lemons, you make lemonade. But when life gives you a grapefruit, try not to squeeze any in someone’s eye, because that shit stings.

Aquarius: Jan. 20 - Feb. 18
 Your mind’s eye will go blind this week, and you will be embarrassed when everyone is making fun of its funny looking eye-patch.

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Easy

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Hard

Directions:
Fill in the blank squares so that each row, each column and each three-by-three block contain all of the digits 1 through 9.

Source: krazydad.com

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‘TMNT’ gives ‘Turtles’ series new life in CGI

By **MOHAMMAD RAHMAN**
FLAT HAT ONLINE EDITOR

Hollywood’s recent trek into nostalgia gets green, mean and cheesy with Warner Brothers’ new CGI film “TMNT,” the fourth film in the once-popular “Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles” franchise.

The story is set several years after the events of the third film. The Turtles are in disarray after Leonardo, their leader, was sent into exile in Latin America to battle his demons and complete his training per the orders of Master Splinter. His brothers have lost their way in his absence, especially Raphael, who feels bitter and betrayed. He decides to take matters into his own hands and walks the night as the Nightwatcher, a vigilante who fights for his own brand of justice. April, voiced by Sarah Michelle Gellar (“Scooby Doo”), the Turtles’ close friend, ventures to find Leonardo and convinces him to return, despite his reluctance. Upon his return, all greet him warmly but Raphael — a conflict he must deal with the entire film.

Meanwhile, billionaire tycoon Max Winters, voiced by Patrick Stewart (“X-Men”), has collected strange stone statues that come to life and wreak havoc upon

New York City by battling demons in the night. In addition, the Foot Clan, the Turtles’ old foes, have resurfaced. It seems Leonardo has returned at just the right time; the end of the world seems near unless the Turtles can put a stop to it.

The new film is directed by life-long ‘Turtles’ fan Kevin Munroe, making his motion picture debut. He was able to resurrect a once-dead project and convince investors he could make it on a third of the budget he was given. Munroe does not disappoint, as his direction is full of energy and passion. His only fault lies in the script — it’s too short. After only 87 minutes, the movie is suddenly over. With so much time spent on developing the main characters (which provided some great exposition), it seems Munroe ran out of gas and decided to end everything at once.

This film is rather dark for a kids’ movie, especially given the conflict between Raphael and Leonardo that results in a fight scene that could leave many young kids in the theater feeling uncomfortable. However, the new film is a vast improvement over the last two in the

franchise, ditching most of the cheesiness and idiocy that plagued them. Now, not all cheesiness is gone — Michelangelo is still Michelangelo, the pizza-loving, skateboard riding, wanna-be surfer dude. Donatello is still the know-it-all and Splinter still has his dry sense of humor. Also, there is the returning Casey Jones, voiced by Chris Evans (“The Fantastic Four”), who continues to provide comic relief. But even with these elements, the new film fails to match the charm of the first in the series. However, many ‘Turtle’ purists rebuke that remark by saying the new film is truest to the source of the story.

In addition to the dark plot turn, “TMNT” welcomes a shift into CGI — an interesting change which keeps the movie fresh. The CGI in the film is certainly in the upper echelon of what Hollywood has to offer and allows Munroe to take the genre to another level. One thing sure to separate “TMNT” from other CGI films is its action, which easily trumps the likes of “The Incredibles” in terms of violence. This, combined

with the hyper-kinetic camerawork, makes the film a thrill ride.

The actors do a commendable job with their voicework. Oscar-nominated Mako (“Pearl Harbor”) adds a new layer of strength to the character of Splinter with his deep voice, while still maintaining the traits that made Splinter likeable in the past. Sadly, Mako died before the release of the film, but was still able to complete the majority of his voicework.

The soundtrack is also something worth noting. While the ‘Turtles’ franchise is known for spawning such classics such as “T-U-R-T-L-E Power” and “Ninja Rap,” by platinum-selling artist Vanilla Ice, the new soundtrack has a rough edge to it that compliments the film. By featuring the likes of the Gym Class Heroes and P.O.D, the film is able to connect with the target college demographic.

A lot of the criticism toward the film is that it was only made to push a new series of toys. However, that is not the case; the real reason the film was made is because the last toyline did so well. After all, the previous cartoon incarnations of the film all failed. Also, many are comparing this film to the originals,

See ‘TMNT’ page 9

Sandler charms in ‘Reign Over Me’ ‘Far Away’ entertains

By **BETH SUTHERLAND**
FLAT HAT STAFF WRITER

Mike Binder’s “Reign Over Me” narrates an unusual relationship between Alan Johnson, played by Don Cheadle (“Crash”), and Charlie Fineman, played by Adam Sandler (“Click”). Once college roommates, they are two sides of the same coin. Alan has gone on to become a successful dentist, but Charlie is a broken, nearly insane man whose entire family died in the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001. A surprisingly lighthearted tale of loss and healing, the film is charming, but too often it sacrifices solemnity for comedic cheap shots.

Perhaps the most intriguing aspect of this film — the feature that piqued everyone’s interest when previews were released — is Adam Sandler’s presence as a dramatic character in a dramatic movie. It often proves difficult for comedians to make the transition to drama. One can reference Jim Carey’s less than satisfying “The Truman Show,” “The Majestic” and his latest flop, “The Number 23.” Robin Williams, too, proves uncomfortable out of his comedic skin; “One Hour Photo” didn’t do too well, for example.

It must be said that Sandler slides more gracefully into drama than others like him. He by no means gives a seamless performance, often relying on stock expressions, but his grief and anger are real. Like Johnny Depp in “Secret Window,” Sandler has wisely chosen a dramatic but quirky role in which he is not obligated to keep a straight face, but can showcase his prowess with a few emotionally charged scenes. He plays a loose cannon. Charlie is prone to bursts of violence and despair, but can also be childlike and fun-loving. Cheadle, his successful counterpart, also engages in the humor/pathos dichotomy. He is stifled by his controlling wife and boring career, and finds great fun in playing Charlie’s video games and riding his scooter. Ineffably likeable, Cheadle is a joy as usual.

What undercuts both actors and story, though, is the film’s ongoing identity crisis. It does not know whether it wants to be a comedy or a tragedy (well, more pathos, really, but why be technical?), and it doesn’t possess enough poignancy to be a tragicomedy

or enough darkness to be a black comedy. There are too many scenes bordering on goofy, so what is it? While the moments of comic relief (and there are many) are often clever or merited, enough are gratuitous to devalue its drama. Granted, it’s still a very good movie that proves powerful enough to pay attention to, but the viewer cringes when an unnecessary or overly obvious joke is made at the expense of the seriousness of the characters’ situations.

The film is fun, but it is much more than mere entertainment. The relationship between Alan and Charlie, though not really subtle, is heartwarming. Charlie brings out the child in Alan; Alan helps Charlie confront the memories he has repressed. There are stormy moments in which Charlie has an outburst and the two are at odds, but otherwise, their relationship is so feel-good that the viewer cannot help but feel a sense of foreboding. It seems like this can only end in tragedy (the price the viewer expects to pay for all of the laughs she has enjoyed). The movie avoids an unnecessary and contrived tragic ending, which is good, but substitutes it for a happy

one that is almost too clean.

Still, despite the genre confusion (and maybe one has to step away from “genre” to enjoy “Reign Over Me”), the film has a lot to offer. Though the characters are not terribly realistic, they interact in interesting ways. Similar to “Crash,” it intertwines apparently unconnected characters in such a way as to give everyone at least some measure of worth. These sorts of movies are usually life-affirming and clever.

One of the best aspects of the film is its hot soundtrack. The film’s title comes from a classic, somewhat precocious metal ballad by The Who, which is played both in its original form and redone for the credits. Though love heals, this theme isn’t really prominent enough to justify the title. Still, Charlie’s preoccupation with music as an escape adds flavor. The Pretenders, Bob Seger and Bruce Springsteen all make an appearance.

Seeing Adam Sadler in a serious role is a unique enough experience to justify seeing “Reign Over Me” — but it falls quite a bit short of the masterpiece mark.

◆◆◆☆☆



COURTESY PHOTO • SONY
Don Cheadle (LEFT) and Adam Sandler star as friends Alan Johnson and Charlie Fineman in “Reign Over Me.” The film’s soundtrack, a character in itself, features tracks by artists such as The Who, Bruce Springsteen and Bob Seger.

By **JONATHAN SEIDEN**
FLAT HAT PHOTOGRAPHY EDITOR

“Far Away,” presented by the College’s Second Season, proved an entertaining foray into surrealist British theater. Ably directed by senior Alexandra Ruperti, the play combined projected multimedia, a superb choice in music and sound and effective set design to lay the foundation for quality acting. The play is broken into three seemingly unrelated acts. Each engaged the viewer in different ways.

The first act slowly describes a terrible scene a child has witnessed, leaving the audience guessing what exactly the story is. Junior Bess Kaye aptly portrays Harper, the aunt who knows her husband is doing a violent wrong. Similarly, freshman Maggie Seegers’ dramatic skill shows as she plays Joan, the innocent but inquisitive child who knows she has seen something she ought not.

The beginning of act two shows the Seegers and Todd, played by junior Alex Danvers, working in a hat shop. While the dialogue is interesting and the scene staged well, this scene draws one of only a few criticisms of the show. Both Seegers and Danvers demonstrate their individual acting prowess, but their onstage chemistry seems lacking. What could come off as a burgeoning love affair coupled with intense internal conflict is presented much more as a flat dialogue between the pair. Fortunately, this problem is endemic only to this scene as their onstage performance in the third act proves admirable.

Showcasing the hats made by Joan and Todd, the latter half of the second act features a bizarre fashion show. The show contains the only appearance of the Prisoners and ends in their deaths. This scene is when

the intimacy of the studio theater shows its necessity. Completely breaking the fourth wall, the frantic personal interactions between the Prisoners and audience members, coupled with simply chilling sound design, is the emotional climax of the piece.

The finale of the play is also the most confusing part. It is within this act that the individuals’ dramatic strengths came through most impressively. The interplay between Kaye and Harvey exhibits some of the most convincing acting of the show. Their surrealist argumentation is offset by the sincerity with which they portray it, creating a pleasing disparity between what the audience hears and what is seen and felt.

That “Far Away” presents strong overtones on the problem of non-action in the face of wrong is evident when speaking with Kaye, who not only acts as Harper in the show, but who also serves as the production’s publicity director. She described the purpose of the show as “to demonstrate the absurdity of war.” These themes are highlighted with the use of interactive multimedia presentations which not only show the passage of time, but those who, instead of backing away in the face of evil, come forth and fight against it.

The show is as enjoyable as it is confusing. This could be a result of my status as an American theater patron. Kaye commented on the disparity of American and British audiences, saying that Americans are less used to non-plot based theatrics and that “[‘Far Away’], instead of trying to present a message, tries to invoke a feeling.” Perhaps this was indicative of my feelings. As the play ended and the house lights came up, the first comment I made was a hearty, “That was cool ... What the hell happened?”

Fox’s ‘24’ continues to win over fans with good, old-fashioned escapism

CRITICAL CONDITION



Conor McKay

I caught Bauer fever this winter, or rather, I never recovered from my case of Bauer fever last year. Hell, who am I kidding, I’ve been infected since the second season of “24.” That was 2002 (and yes, I did go back and watch the first season, but more on that later). The show, now in its sixth season, has only gotten better with age, sporting bigger and better actors and an all-star budget to boot. Right now, it’s the best damn show on television, period. Frankly, I don’t even watch anything else.

Now I know there are those of you who strongly support “Grey’s Anatomy,” “Lost” and all those other primetime powerhouse programs, but hear me out. “24” is absolutely ridiculous, presenting situations that could never (and would never) happen, solutions and resolutions that are beyond far-fetched and a consistently super-human hero. Therein lies the rub for most series. Bottom line: dramas that take themselves seriously will be hard-pressed to find consistently enticing storylines

while still remaining realistic. “Lost” will sooner or later collapse upon itself, suffering from “X-Files” syndrome; a show can only follow characters searching for answers for so long before the audience realizes that there never was an answer to begin with. “Grey’s Anatomy” will have to continue making characters get pregnant or die to stay strong, and sooner or later its gonna run out of characters with which to do it. “24” seems to have the market share on entertainment that allows its viewers to suspend their disbelief and simply grin at explosions, gunfights and good, old-fashioned torture.

“24” also happens to be the most addicting show on television as a product of its mere nature. A show whose episodes run as 24 consecutive hours requires viewers to watch every week. The show’s edge-of-your-seat action keeps you coming back for more. Plus, so much happens in each action-packed hour that, when coupled with the real-time storyline, failing to catch a single episode is


like losing a leg. Such a disaster could result in missing an assassination attempt on the president, the detonation of a nuclear bomb, an almost-too-gruesome-for-TV torture of a captured informant (all of which have occurred already this season) or all three. I started watching the show in its second season, but to catch up, I bought the first season on DVD — and watched the whole thing in three days. All 24 hours (well, 18 without commercials). Again, it’s addicting.

This season, “24” is better than ever, and the main reason is the show’s iconic hero. Jack Bauer has returned from two years of beatings in a Chinese prison, complete with whip marks on his back and a mysteriously scarred left hand, and within hours of his release de-arm a nuclear bomb. He’s already tortured his own brother (the mysterious bad guy from last season) and was nearly killed by his father. His death toll is rising and his badass factor has never been higher. Somehow, the writers have made him even more ridiculous

than he was the season he fought withdrawals from a heroine addiction all day. Again, I reiterate that what holds this show up is the fact that it in no way holds up.

Every Monday at 9, my posse and I group up and cheer on our mutual idol. Next week, Bauer will torture one of two main villains (ex-Russian general Dmitri Gredenko), captured last week, and the vice president will attempt to usurp the president in his opportunistic attempt to control the nation’s nuclear arsenal (of course, after the president was roused from a coma last episode to thwart the VP’s plan to nuke the Middle East). The Jack Bauer (soda) drinking game will be in full swing, and I’m sure my friends and I will not be disappointed. “24” is horribly consistent at being horribly inaccurate in mirroring real life, and for that, we love it.

Conor McKay is the Flat Hat reviews editor. He has chosen “24” over many other obligations, including, but not limited to, eating, sleeping, studying and showering.



Singled Out

Elton John — “Bennie and the Jets (Live)”

From his new hits album “Rocket Man: Number Ones”

Two days after turning 60, Elton John released an album of his number one singles. The 17-track CD includes favorites like “Tiny Dancer,” “Candle in the Wind” and a great live version of “Bennie and the Jets.”

— compiled by *Conor McKay*

iTunes top 10 albums

1. *We Were Dead Before the Ship Even Sank* — Modest Mouse

2. *Back to Black* — Amy Winehouse

3. *Let It Go* — Tim McGraw

4. *Introducing Joss Stone* — Joss Stone

5. *Elliott Yamin* — Elliott Yamin

6. *Good Morning Revival* — Good Charlotte

7. *Buck in the World* — Young Buck

8. *Life in Cartoon Motion* — Mika

9. *The Best Damn Things* — Avril Lavigne

10. *Daughtry* — Daughtry

Hollywood Gossip

Sir Bono

U2 frontman Bono was knighted yesterday for his efforts to end poverty and AIDS in Africa. The Irish rockstar and Red campaign activist received the title of Honorary Knight Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire. Only citizens of the British Commonwealth and United Kingdom may take the title of “Sir,” but he prefers “Lord of lords” or “your demigodness” anyway. Looks like Angelina Jolie has some catching up to do in the best humanitarian category.



Here we go

Bam Margera has a not-so-secret man-crush on former ’N Sync star Lance Bass. The “Viva la Bam” star has pictures of the “dirty pop”star up against his wall. According to an insider, a shrine to the blonde crooner includes portraits of the trained astronaut in front of a NASA shuttle. When asked, Margera confirmed the rumor, saying, “Hell yeah! The guy from ’N Sync who wanted to go to outer space, but never made it and was all gay and shit!” Okay Bam — do your thing.



First designers

Everyone’s favorite cross-continental dynamic duo has taken on another endeavor that’s just too much. “Mothers who love fashion,” Victoria Beckham and Katie Holmes, are beginning a fashion line for children. The BFFs’ disturbing behavior has us asking, “Who do you think you are?” Posh Spice has never fully lived up to her name — the wannabe’s last fashion line didn’t go so well. Katie’s marriage has proved she isn’t the most sensible of decision makers. Seriously girls — just stop.



K-Fed a family man?

America’s most hated rapper, Kevin Federline, was forced to cancel one of his birthday parties last week. He was planning a soiree at Eleven nightclub in Hollywood, but was unable to find a weekly magazine to sponsor the event. K-Fed insists that his choice to cancel at the last minute was purely personal, noting that he “is just focusing on his family right now,” which we totally believe — he’s never been anything but the most doting father.

— compiled by *Alice Hahn*

‘TMNT’ offers fresh look with CGI


‘TMNT’ from page 8

which is a mistake. While the film was made to honor its past, it aims to go in a completely different direction.

In short, “TMNT” is a kids’ movie about teenagers targeted at the college crowd. It’s made for the kids

who grew up with the Turtles way back in the late ’80s and early ’90s. The darker story shows this. If the newer generation catches on, great. If they don’t, that’s fine as well. If this is the Turtles’ last hurrah, then by all means this film should give itself a huge COWABUNGA.

◆◆◆◆☆



COURTESY PHOTO • WARNER BROS.

All your favorite ‘Turtles’ characters — (FROM LEFT) Michelangelo, Donatello, Leonardo, Raphael, April O’Neil and Casey Jones — appear in CGI in the franchise’s latest installment, “TMNT.”



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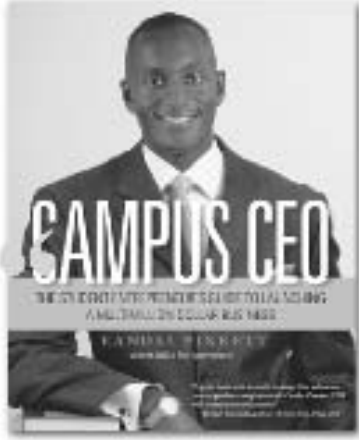
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MEN'S GOLF: WILLIAM AND MARY INVITATIONAL

College hosts W&M Invite; team finishes in 9th place

Sophomore Hurson places 11th individually

By Miles Hilder
Flat Hat Assoc. Sports Editor

Sophomore Doug Hurson continued his successful year for the Tribe, posting scores of 71 and 74 over two rounds at the William and Mary Invitational to lead the College to a ninth-place finish. The tournament, which was won by Campbell University, featured 21 schools from around the nation competing at Kingsmill Golf Resort in Williamsburg.

Hurson, who placed 11th individually, has been the Tribe's top finisher in four of their six tournaments this year. The sophomore led the entire field in par five scoring, shooting a combined four-under-par on Kingsmill's longest holes.

"Doug had a solid performance and continues to prove himself as one of our top players," Head Coach Jay Albaugh said. "He used good course management both days and that led to his good finish."

Every member of the Tribe roster participated in their home invitational, but only five golfers competed at the varsity level. Sophomore Brent Paladino shot consecutive rounds of 74 to finish in a tie for 20th with 148 strokes. Juniors Jonas Miller and Jimmy Femino combined to shoot 158 after final rounds of 78 and 80, respectively. Senior captain Matt Brantingham's score of 160 was not enough to factor into the College's team total.

The Tribe's finish would have been improved had senior Ryan Price and freshman Conor O'Brien been playing on the varsity roster. Price's two-round total of 148 tied him with Paladino in 20th

position and O'Brien's 153 strokes placed him in 51st, four shots ahead of both Miller and Femino.

Fredric Sundberg of Campbell captured medalist honors, firing rounds of three-under 67 and two-under 70 to beat out Detroit University's Mark Sommerfield by two shots.

The Invitational's first round was played on Kingsmill's Plantation Course, with the final round being contested at the resort's famed River Course. Tuesday's final round proved more of a challenge for the field, as the overall scoring average rose almost a full stroke. In addition to playing the River at 6,831 yards, tournament officials placed the holes in the same locations to be faced by Annika Sorenstam, Natalie Gulbis and the stars of the Ladies' Professional Golf Association during the final round of the LPGA Tour's Michelob ULTRA Open on the River Course in May.

Thanks in large part to Hurson's impressive showing on the par fives, the Tribe led the field in par five scoring, totaling eight-under for the tournament. Birdies were no problem for the College either, as the Tribe racked up 26 of them en route to the second-highest team total in the event. But a lack of consistency eventually caught up to the College.



Alex Haglund • The Flat Hat
Tribe men's golf finished 9th at the William and Mary Invitational, held this year at Kingsmill.

Though the team performed well on the long holes, they never found an answer for Kingsmill's shortest, failing to crack the top 15 in par three scoring. The Tribe also failed to make the top 15 in pars made.

The College will look to build on their finish when they travel to Grasonville, Md. this weekend to compete in The Lacrosse Homes Collegiate Invitational.

BASEBALL: TRIBE 4, VMI 3

Sexton knocks out VMI in 9th inning

Senior third baseman's two-RBI triple keys victory

By Maddy Wolfert
The Flat Hat

Looking to rebound from their 15-3 loss against the University of Maryland the day before, the Tribe battled Virginia Military Institute Wednesday at Plumeri Park, earning a 4-3 victory thanks to some late-inning heroics from senior third baseman Greg Sexton. Junior left fielder Greg Maliniak and senior second baseman Brent McWhorter also put together solid performances at the plate, going 3-for-4 on the day.

The College got on the board first in the bottom of the third, as junior designated hitter Tim Park doubled to right center and McWhorter reached first on a bunt to third base and then stole second. Sexton then tallied one of his three RBIs on a sacrifice fly to score Park.

VMI totaled three runs in the fifth but the

Tribe responded in the sixth as Maliniak singled and worked his way around the bases, finally scoring on a wild pitch.

The Tribe entered the bottom of the ninth down 3-2, but Park sparked what would be the game-winning rally with a lead-off single through the left side. With sophomore Jeff Jones pinch running for Park, McWhorter singled to right field and Jones advanced to third. Sexton stepped up to the plate and smashed a triple to center field, plating McWhorter and Jones and winning the game for the College.

Senior Warrik Staines (1-0) earned the victory in relief.

In Tuesday's loss to Maryland, Park went 2-for-3 at the plate while McWhorter, sophomore first baseman Mike Sheridan, and sophomore center fielder Ben Guez were all 1-for-3. Sheridan finished with two RBI and Maliniak recorded one. Freshman starting pitcher Tyler Truxell was chased after four and two thirds innings and suffered the loss.



Lauren Nelson • The Flat Hat
Tribe baseball is now 16-13 after beating VMI Wednesday and falling to Maryland Tuesday.



Megan Doyle • The Flat Hat
Senior midfielder Kara Parker attempts to get past her Georgetown defender. With Tuesday night's home loss to the Hoyas, the Tribe dropped to 2-6 overall for the season.

LACROSSE: TRIBE 5, GEORGETOWN 13

Hoyas' defense sticks it to Tribe

Georgetown out-shoots Tribe 35-18; travels to George Washington today

By Jessica Hecht
The Flat Hat

The Tribe fell 13-5 to ninth-ranked Georgetown University Tuesday night. The loss marked the College's fourth defeat to teams ranked in the national top 10. Junior midfielder Jaime Sellers led the Tribe with three goals and freshman goalie Sara Beckstead notched 15 saves, but it was not enough to save the College from falling to 2-6 on the season. Additionally, seniors Jaime Fitzgerald and Kristen Wong each added one goal apiece.

Despite two early saves from Beckstead, Georgetown was quick on the attack and gained a 2-0 lead just inside the first five minutes of the game. The Hoyas scored their third goal following a failed attempt by the Tribe to clear the defensive zone and before 10 minutes had elapsed, Georgetown scored again to stretch the lead to four.

Over the next 10 minutes, Beckstead came up big with three saves, preventing Georgetown from pulling away, and with exactly eight minutes remaining in the first half, Wong launched a low, hard shot into the back of the net to put the Tribe on the scoreboard. Within a minute, however, the Hoyas utilized control of the draw and marched down the field to tally their sixth goal of the game.

Beckstead would make two more saves before the College finally scored its second goal with less than two minutes remaining in the first half. Sellers' goal cut the margin to 6-2 as Beckstead made two more saves in the next minute and a half. With just 10 seconds before halftime, an offsides call was made against the Tribe to give possession to Georgetown and the Hoyas capitalized, banging one past Beckstead with three seconds left to give Georgetown a comfortable 7-2 lead.

In the first seven minutes of the second stanza, Beckstead recorded three

more saves, but the freshman could not keep the Hoyas at bay, as Georgetown notched their eighth score with 22:40 on the clock. Less than a minute later, Georgetown utilized a free position shot to take a 9-2 advantage.

The Tribe wouldn't back down as Sellers launched her second goal of the game just 30 seconds later. Fitzgerald then brought the College within five with an unassisted tally at the 18:54 mark, but the Hoyas notched three more goals before Sellers recorded her and the Tribe's final goal of the game with 1:23 remaining. Despite their valiant efforts, the College gave up two more goals before the final horn sounded.

Although the Tribe held a 13-7 advantage in draws, Georgetown out-shot the College 35-18 and recorded 13 less turnovers. The Tribe travels to Washington, D.C. today to face off against George Washington University at 4 p.m.

FROM THE SIDELINES

Final Four pick 'em: Our columnists take their best shot

Florida



At first glance, there is little separation between the teams in this year's Final Four. They all won regular season titles in their respective league and all have 30 or more wins. It would appear as if any squad could cut down the nets Monday night.

But once you take a closer look, the choice is clear. For the first time in fifteen years, there will be a repeat national champion.

For starters, Florida is the most experienced of the four. Coach Billy Donovan returns his entire starting five, along with his top seven scorers from last year's championship team. Joakim Noah, Corey Brewer and

Al Horford could have all jumped to the NBA after last season but they came back with one goal in mind: To win it all. Again.

Second, Florida has the most weapons. No player on the team attempts more than 10 shots a game. In addition, all five starters average double figures in points. Where the other three teams all rely on one player to set the offensive tempo, Florida doesn't.

Prediction: Florida over UCLA, Florida over Georgetown.



Carl Siegmund

UCLA



While UCLA is hardly a sexy pick to win it all — they are by most accounts the biggest long shot of the four teams left — the Bruins excel in the two areas that matter most in the NCAA Tournament: defense and outside shooting.

The Bruins' defense flat out shuts teams down. They will certainly be challenged inside by Florida big men Al Horford and Joakim Noah, but their D is strong enough to overcome this disadvantage.

The Bruins' offense often comes under attack from critics, but when it comes

down to it, guards Arron Afflalo and Darren Collison are as good a tandem as there is in the country. Josh Shipp has also emerged as a much-needed third scoring option, forcing defenses to stay honest.

So here you have it: UCLA squeaks past Florida, then takes down the dangerously overconfident winner of the Ohio State-Georgetown game in the final. Bill Walton stands and rejoices, blocking the views of fans sitting



Jeff Dooley

Ohio State



If you're looking for pedigree in picking your national champ, look to your left or right. Ohio State's basketball program boasts just one NCAA championship (1960) and the school is making only their second trip to the Final Four since 1968.

But this year's Buckeye roster sports two young freshmen who couldn't care less about their program's history. In fact, Mike Conley Jr. and Greg Oden arrived on campus with the goal of creating some history of their own.

The dynamic freshmen come from a tradition of winning, having captured three straight high school state championships together. In their short time at Ohio State, Conley and Oden have already breathed basketball life into a school and state obsessed with football.

Throw in fellow newcomers David Lighty and Daequan Cook, along with senior Ron Lewis, and you have a young team with unlimited potential determined to bring a national championship to Columbus.



Miles Hilder

Georgetown



The future champion of the 2007 NCAA tournament possesses the best all around player in all of college basketball. No, it's not the Florida Gators with rebounding machine Al Horford. Nor is it the UCLA

Bruins and their phenomenal guard, Pac-10 Player of the Year, Arron Afflalo. It's not even the Ohio State Buckeyes with the 7' swat-machine, Greg Oden. This year's champion will be the Georgetown Hoyas and the most complete player in college basketball, forward Jeff Green.

Green's incredible versatility is the element separating him from any other player in the game. For example, against the UNC Tar Heels, Green contained Tyler Hansbrough, one of the best post players in the game. Then Green switched and neutralized swift guard Ty Lawson.

Not only can Green play effective defense, he can create match up problems on offense, causing other teams to think twice before double teaming the 7'2" Roy Hibbert. The oft-overlooked Green will be the X-factor propelling the Hoyas to their first NCAA Title since 1984.



Graham Williamson